36. The method of claim 35, wherein said plant is transformed with a nucleic acid comprising a sequence which encodes a dominant negative mutant of a fatty acid desaturase.

37. The method of claim 35, wherein said plant is transformed with a nucleic acid comprising a sequence which encodes a mutant fatty acid desaturase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated.

38. The method of claim 35, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of rapeseed, *Crambe, Brassica jucea,* canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm and corn.

39. A method of altering an amount of an unsaturated fatty acid comprising

(a) transforming a plant cell with a nucleic acid comprising a sequence which encodes a dominant negative mutant of a fatty acid desaturase; wherein said desaturase is substantially inactive

(b) growing a seed-bearing plant from the transformed plant cell of step (a); and

(c) identifying a seed from the plant of step (b) with the altered amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

40. The method of claim 39, wherein said nucleic acid comprises a sequence which encodes the dominant negative mutant of a fatty acid desaturase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated.

41. The method of claim 39, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of rapeseed, *Crambe, Brassica jucea,* canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm and corn.

REMARKS

Claims 35-41 are currently pending. Claims 1, 7-11 and 14-16 are newly canceled.

The foregoing amendments are being made to place the application in condition for allowance. Newly added claims 35-41 are fully supported throughout the specification. In